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BLOODED  
ÎJÈBÚ  
(FBI)

ISSUE 011

HERITAGE ELEGANCE SERIES

# HAMIDAH KUKU

HISTORIC YOUNG RIDER |  
CULTURAL TRAILBLAZER |  
HERITAGE AMBASSADOR

## FROM THE HERITAGE DESK

### **When Courage Meets Culture: The Youngest Trailblazer**

Hamidah Kuku made history at the 2024 Ojúde Ọba Festival as the first female young horse rider to step into the spotlight in the festival's history.

At just 10 years old, she has become a symbol of courage, pride, and heritage, inspiring a new wave of inclusivity in one of Nigeria's most celebrated cultural traditions.

Her solo ride represents more than individual achievement—it signals the evolution of tradition and the power of youth to shape cultural narratives. From learning to ride at six to making history at ten, Hamidah proves that heritage grows stronger when embraced by every generation.

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## ABOUT

Hamidah Kuku is a young cultural trailblazer who made history at the 2024 Ojúde Ọba Festival as the first female young horse rider to step into the spotlight in the festival's history.

At just 10 years old, she has become a symbol of courage, pride, and heritage, inspiring a new wave of inclusivity in one of Nigeria's most celebrated cultural traditions.

Beyond her role as a brave rider, Hamidah represents the spirit of youth embracing heritage with boldness and pride.

Her presence at Ojúde Ọba stands as a powerful reminder that culture grows stronger when passed on to the next generation.

## THE JOURNEY

My journey began when I was only six years old, learning to ride under the guidance of my father, a skilled horseman and proud custodian of our heritage.

In 2024, I rode my horse solo independently which made the first history at Ojúde Ọba festival and became the youngest female to ride in the parade.

It has not just been about learning to ride, but about building confidence, discipline, and love for my culture.



HAMIDAH  
KUKU

## VISION AND LEGACY

My vision is to continue breaking boundaries while protecting tradition.

I want to encourage more young people, especially girls, to embrace and celebrate our culture with pride.

My legacy will be to show that age and gender are not limitations—heritage belongs to everyone, and it grows stronger when we all take part.

## INSPIRATIONS & CULTURAL IMPACT

My story has inspired many families to see the importance of teaching culture to children early.

It has shown young girls that they, too, can stand tall in spaces once reserved for men.

By riding at Ojúde Ọba, I have helped spark conversations about inclusivity, courage, and the evolving role of tradition in today's world.

My presence at the festival demonstrates that cultural preservation and progress can coexist, creating space for future generations to participate fully in their heritage.



**"Heritage is the heartbeat of a people—it is where we come from, who we are, and what gives us strength for tomorrow."**

**- HAMIDA KUKU**

**@fullbloodedijebu**

## THE CALL

I encourage every young person to embrace our heritage with pride.

Culture is not old-fashioned – it is our identity, our pride, and our gift to the world.

The more we celebrate it, the stronger our future will be

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BY  
**TIMI ADEGUNWA**

@fullbloodedijebu

This profile is part of our ongoing series celebrating Ìjèbú heritage worldwide. To feature your profile or nominate someone for our Heritage Elegance Series, contact us at [fbi@fullbloodedijebu.com](mailto:fbi@fullbloodedijebu.com)